

Synchronized Electrical Cardioversion (April 2013)

Item: Therapeutic dose of electrical current to the heart to convert an arrhythmia to a normal cardiac rhythm.
Classification: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advanced Life Support procedure• Specified in existing regulations.
Use and Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not authorized for EMT or AEMT• Authorized for EMT-II with approved optional scope of practice• Authorized for Paramedic through existing regulations
Authority: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section 100106.1(b)(2) of the AEMT Regulations, Chapter 4, Division 9, Title 22, California Code of Regulations allows an AEMT who was previously certified as an EMT-II to perform synchronized cardioversion as an optional skill in within a LEMSA that had an approved EMT-II program prior to January 1, 1994.• Section 100146(c)(1)(B) of the Paramedic Regulations, Chapter 4, Division 9, Title 22, California Code of Regulations allows a Paramedic to perform synchronized cardioversion.
Training: As specified in EMT and Paramedic regulations for level of provider.
Equipment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Properly functioning EKG in order to identify electrical activity of the heart
Medical Direction: Used in accordance with a protocol written and approved by the local EMS agency medical director (HS 1797.220).
Considerations and Recommendations: If synchronization is unable to be achieved, unsynchronized defibrillation can be considered.